

Social Justice Task Forces
Application for Recognition or Renewal
Unitarian Universalist Church Bloomington (UUCB)
Sept 2022

Name of Task Force: The Hunger Task Force Initial____ Renewal x

Form submitted by: Mary Blizzard Phone: 812-333-8957 E-mail: maryblizzard6@gmail.com

Task Force Chair if different than above:

Name: Dee Morris (co-chair) Phone: 812-361-6513 E-mail: ddmorris2@gmail.com

Please answer these questions:

1. What are the goals of the task force, and how do they reflect UUCB principles and enhance the life of our congregation?

The goals of the task force are to educate the congregation on the growing problem of hunger in our community, especially with rising inflation, and to raise money and food donations to help alleviate the problem. We also seek volunteers to help us staff two food prep shifts per month at Community Kitchen. These goals support the principles of the inherent worth and dignity of every person, justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. This TF is open to any member or friend of the congregation who would like to join.

2. What are your planned activities this year (especially thinking of families, children, chalice circles, and connections), including fundraising and educational meetings, and how do you plan to accomplish them?

- Ongoing food collections in bins placed on the north side of the church. Recipients vary.
- Paying for one hot breakfast every month at Shalom.
- November Holiday Basket Food Drive for MCUM.
- Two food prep shifts per month at the Community Kitchen
- Fiber Arts booth at the Holiday Bazaar fundraiser - our best fundraiser
- Continue to work with RE on projects: i. e. lasagnas for Shalom, etc.
- Continue to supply grocery gift cards to needy people in the congregation. Sharon Yarber is the liaison person who maintains the contacts and privacy of these individuals and families.
- Maintaining our Little Free Pantry which is beside Needmore Coffee on Pete Ellis Drive.
- Engage chalice circles in our projects as part of their outreach requirement.

3. Who are the core members of this task force, Cecelia Murphy, Debbie Brown, Dee Morris, Iris Kiesling, Jackie Hall, Judy Kelly, Lynn Struve, Marcia Hart, Mary Blizzard, Mary Goetze, Pearl Springfield and what is the normal schedule of your meetings? Roughly every month

Do you have plans to expand within the congregation and to the larger community? Congregational members are always welcome to join

4. If a \$300 budget were available, How would your task force use it this year? Be specific. What other resources (financial and otherwise) will you need to meet your goals and how will these be met?

Our task force would like to apply for the \$300 budget. We would use the money to support our ongoing projects of buying a monthly hot breakfast at Shalom, distributing grocery gift cards to needy members of our congregation, buying food for our Little Free Pantry, conducting food related activities with Religious Education, and distributing needed food to a KAP family (Kids with Absent Parents).

We are constantly pursuing new pockets of need in our community, such as grandparents or foster parents who suddenly find themselves with extra mouths to feed. School counselors are a good source for finding these situations. This is an outreach we hope to examine in the upcoming year.

As we progress in our quest to eliminate hunger in Bloomington, we are called upon from time to time to help with one-shot appeals for food. We have aided such outside agencies as New Hope Family Shelter, Shalom, Community Kitchen, and Monroe Community United Ministries.

Other financial resources for meeting our goal of providing healthy foods to the Bloomington community are: using proceeds from the Fiber Arts Booth at the Holiday Bazaar and football parking. For the upcoming year we are planning such fundraisers as another "Time for Change", selling breads, and a Burrito Bonanza! The congregation has been amazingly generous with their food contributions to our various food drives and their support in general.

5. List at least 3 small bites - short-term or one-time volunteer opportunities (especially thinking of families, children, chalice circles, college students) that might be used to invite new members to your task force.

- Fiber Arts Booth at Holiday Bazaar –set up, staffing, break down
- Donate fiber art pieces to our booth at the bazaar.
- Volunteer to work a shift preparing food at the Community Kitchen. Two shifts available per month.
- Help with our RE activities, which typically include exploits in the kitchen.
- Support our fundraising sales with donations of breads or ingredients for burritos.

6. What other information and resources would you like listed on your task force web page? See current SJ task force web pages for format and ideas.

- [A link](#) to our donation suggestions for the bins on the north side of the church.
These lists may change from month to month.
- Add Dee Morris as a contact: ddmorris2@gmail.com
- Delete blurb about serving breakfasts at the Shalom Center
- **Change Fundraising to:** Help with fundraising opportunities:
Needed: New ideas, muscle, donations, advertising in Prologue and Friday Updates
- **Update flowchart with the pdf attached here**

Submit this application electronically to Jackie Hall at jmhall@indiana.edu. Please be specific and accurate. Your information will be used in creating social justice web pages and other church documents